



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

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draft * Education Committee Minutes**

October 10, 2007
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order 3:33 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: *Kris Johnston, Chair, *Anna Attla, *Art Arnold, *Taylor Gregg, *Hettie Hume, *David Kvasager, Vocational Rehabilitation, *John Owens, Northwest Arctic Schools,

Not Present: Julie Broyles, Melora Gaber, *Carla Garrett, *Debbie Kitelinger, Irene Moreland, Nancy Nagarkar, Special Education Service Agency, *Pam Shackelford, Stone Soup Group, *Chris Saddler, Sarah Souders, Liaison from Early Intervention Committee; **Courtesy list:** Dr. Shirley Holloway, Liaison with State Board of EED; Stacey Messerschmidt, Council Chair, Kathy Fitzgerald, Past Council Chair

Staff: Judith Bendersky

3:30 p.m. **Call to Order:** (Kris, Chair)

Introductions, announcements or good news: Welcome to John Owens. John is the director of Human Resources at Northwest Arctic. His background is in Special Education in the state, middle-school special education for Anchorage; Art shared a very successful Special Education Director's Conference in Anchorage, in Alaska for 25 years.

Hettie Hume is new on the committee; Hettie is in Teresa Holt's spot.

Approval of Agenda -

Minutes dated September 12, 2007 approved

Put your name in for TASH which will be December 5-8 in Seattle by contacting Millie or Marilee at the Council 269-8990.

3:45 p.m. **Special Education Advisory Panel:**

From the Chair (Kris, 10 minutes)

Update from last week's Council meeting.

Education topics covered during Council meeting – Sharon did a good job on the report on APR and Indicators and what that means.

Possible face-to-face for committee in November – If the committee wants to meet together, that would be a possibility.

John: suggests a mid-winter meeting in January that we could piggyback on is January 15-17th.

Council meeting is 29-31 in Juneau.

Possible dates 14th or the 18th in Anchorage.

Work ready/college ready could be one focus that we work on. Another topic could be Christian Moore's "Why Try" program. If there's some providers in a community that invited him, Christian would come and work with the community.

Requests/Updates from Department of Education (Art Arnold or Nancy Guthrie)

Re. the update on Education, the State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report is the focus of all our work.

- Department staff updates

- Clerk has been vacant for 4 months and trying to upgrade it. Steve Jozwiak took Anna's position, so all program manager positions are filled.

- Summary of recent conferences/training events: we did Mediator/Complaint Investigator and Due Process Hearing Officers training; new Directors of Special Education occurred the day before the conference with a focus on the handbook, the best resource that can be given to educators and parents; It should be online by end of October;

Coming up: the Principal's Conference – October 14-16 in Anchorage, Math and Science conference October 18-19 and OELA (Office of English Language Acquisition) October 30-Nov 1st.

- Monitoring update: Alaska Gateway was monitored; Yukon Flats will be completed tomorrow, Hoonah is scheduled, Nenana – Art will try to get us the statistical summary. The strength and need sheet might be appropriate.
- Mediations/Complaints – there haven't been any mediations yet this school year; 2 complaints, 7 due process hearings filed, most recent was last week; Due process hearings: since July 13th there have been 4 due process hearings filed against Anchorage, 2 in Fairbanks, 1 Kenai. Transportation, eligibility, 4 failure to provide services or FAPE, infringement of parents' right to participate in IEP meeting
- Grants, regulations, funding issues, etc. – nothing to report on that
- Other: handbook will be coming out by end of October both CD form and online.

Updates from the Committee membership –

Unfinished business

New Business

Next meeting: date, time, agenda items – Paul Prussing on RTI;
Projected meeting dates: November 14, December 12

5:00 **Adjourn**